

Statement of Substance of Interview

[0003] Examiner Duffield and his supervisor graciously talked with me—the undersigned representative for the Applicant—on February 12 over the telephone. Applicant greatly appreciates the Examiners’ willingness to talk. Such willingness is invaluable to each of us in our common goal of an expedited prosecution of this patent application.

[0004] During the interview, I discussed how the claims differed from the cited references, particularly Tomsen. Without conceding the propriety of the rejections and in the interest of expediting prosecution, I also proposed possible clarifying amendments.

[0005] The Examiners were receptive to the proposals. However, the Examiners indicated that they would need to review the cited art more carefully and do another search, and requested that the proposed amendments be presented in writing.

[0006] Applicant herein amends the claims in the manner discussed during the interview. Accordingly, Applicant submits that the pending claims are allowable over the cited art of record for at least the reasons discussed during the interview.